

Oaks Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Oaks Notes



Acorns on the Ground

General Assembly

What a blessing it was to join over 5,000 other Disciple of Christ believers in Nashville for our General Assembly this year - July 9-13.! Thank you for the opportunity to be a part of this amazing time of worship, praise, learning and fellowship.

Bob and Sara Simons were our voting delegates for Oaks Christian Church. I served this congregation as a clergy voting delegate. We are grateful to Emily Simons who faithfully served the assembly as an usher.

The theme this year was "Tell It". The focus for this year's Assembly was Deut. 6:1-12. This passage contains one of Moses' last sermons to the people before they crossed the Jordan into the Promised Land. Moses knew they would be facing radical change as they traveled forward so he lays out a path of ways for the people to deal with the change.

Like those Israelites, God's people today are facing radical change as church.

Life can be most disorienting when people face change. Sharon Watkins writes: "We reorient ourselves, when we remember who we are: Disciples of Christ, a movement for wholeness in a fragmented world."

Every Worship service centered around the stories of churches learning to navigate the unfamiliar waters of being church in the 21st Century.

There were outstanding inspiring, preachers, musicians, worship, and communion experiences. In addition, there were numerous educational opportunities.

In my opinion, all of General Assembly was a mountain top experience!

Once again, thank you for the experience of being a part of General Assembly this year!

Peace and Joy
Pastor Linda



Oaks Christian Church is a family church that loves to share God's word, God's Love, and God's fellowship with the world. We are a church in the near inner loop that strives to be a helpful part of the community. We are about Deep Christian spirituality, a true community and a passion for Justice. We celebrate communion every Sunday service and all who believe are welcome to receive.

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AUGUST 2011

Disciples of Christ - Bound Together in Love



Annual Church Rummage Sale

The Rummage Sale will be September 8 and 9. We need to start putting aside things, but we can't store them at the church just yet. We can start putting them on the stage about the 1st of September. Thank you. *Jimmye Saldivar*

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9 Prayer Circle 9:30 a.m.	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27  FREE LITE LUNCH SATURDAY
28	29	30	31			

Scripture for August:

Week One: Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28; Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b; Romans 10:5-15, Matthew 14:22-33

Week Two: Genesis 45:1-15; Psalm 133; Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32; Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32; Matthew 15(10-20), 21-28

Week Three: Exodus 1:8-2:10; Psalm 124; Romans 12:1-8; Matthew 16:13-20

Week Four: Exodus 3:1-15; Psalm 105: 1-6, 23-26, 45c; Romans 12:9-21; Matthew 16:21-28

Schedule of Events

- August 7 - Bread Sunday
- August 7 - Elder & Leadership Meeting after worship.
- August 14 - No Board Meeting
- August 21 - 1st John after church
- August 27 - Free Community Meal

UPCOMING BIBLE SHARING SESSIONS

- **August 7** - Elders and Board share thoughts about Transformation , Fellowship Hall 1-2:15 p.m.
- **August 14** - Session 1 Diving Deeper in to the Gospel of Mark - Chapter 1—3 1-2:00 p.m.

- **August 21** - All Church Sharing Session for the Letter of 1 John 1:5 1-2:00 p.m.
- **August 28** - Session 2 Diving Deeper Into the Gospel of Mark Ch 4-8 1-2:00 p.m.

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS:

- 2 - Al Gonzales
- 4 - Amy Dyes
- 5 - Chris King
- 10 - Rudy Green
- 21 - Katie Spencer, Pat Scruggs

- 24 - Jill Doremus
- 26 - Sherri Murray
- 27 - Joe Saldivar
- 30 - Julie Clawson, Melanie Clawson
- 31 - Jamie Gonzales

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES:

- 8 - Oliver and Sue Harrison
- 26 - Glen and Bernie Salven



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Assembly Update, The Evangelism Team, Church Attendance and Treasury Report

ARTICLES ARE DUE NO LATER THAN LAST TUESDAY OF THE MONTH AT NOON!



Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
General Assembly
July 9 – 13, 2011 ♦ Nashville, Tennessee

A few weeks ago, Bob and I were fortunate to be able to serve as the two voting representatives elected by the Oaks General Board to attend the 2011 General Assembly, held this year in Nashville Tennessee. Traveling with us was our daughter, Emily, and joining us in Nashville was Pastor Linda Hopkins and her husband. It was thrilling to be among the 5000+ Disciples of Christ United Church of Christ participants coming together from around the globe to do the business of the greater Church.

The week offered a fast paced agenda with spiritually renewing worship, enlightened learning groups and resource tracts, and faithfully thoughtful business sessions. As part of that business, the Reverend Sharon Watkins was re-elected as General Minister and President for a second six-year term, General Board Committee reports were received and 13 resolutions were brought to the assembly floor. All proposed resolutions passed, some with much debate. The resolutions touched on various issues plaguing our world today, including bullying in schools, anti-Muslim action in the US, human trafficking, and justice in education reform. For more information about this year's General Assembly, photos of the proceedings, or a full listing of resolutions and committee reports, please go to www.disciples.org/GeneralAssembly.

The next General Assembly will convene in July 13-17, 2013 in Orlando, Florida. I'm looking forward to it already!

Yours in Christ, *Sara C. Simons*

The Evangelism Team

Evangelism would like to let you know that the "Free Lunch Saturday" is still going strong. Some months we have 9 and others 26 that are from the community. The word is starting to get out and we are getting a response. We have had some repeat guests and some have attended our church and Renovada's as well. We also have received donations from Kroger's for food and cash donations from various people. We are so appreciative of the generosity of others to help us spread the work of the Lord.

Remember this is open to everyone to come eat and visit with others. Please come and join us and bring a friend. Remember it is free and it makes for some great socializing.

Hope to see you there! The Evangelism Team

Katie Spencer

July Church Attendance Report

Attendance for the Month of July	Sunday School	Church Attendance
July 3, 2011	12	40
July 10, 2011	17	38
July 17, 2011	16	49
July 24, 2011	16	62
July 31, 2011	15	54
TOTALS	76	243

From the Treasurer - Dorene Drake

Operating Account 2011	May	June	July
Deposits	\$9,296.55	\$11,272.50	\$7,628.83
Disbursements	6070.76	10,174.53	(\$10,522.18)
Difference	\$3,225.79	\$1,097.97	(\$2,893.35)

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Oaks Christian Church

Bound Together in Love



FOOD NEEDED FOR MANNA'S PANTRY

**For more information
Contact**

**Billie Murray
(281) 448-1667**

Items Needed:

Peanut butter,
can or powdered milk,
can soup, spaghetti or
noodles, can meat and
can potatoes.

**Open Mon, Tues and
Thurs 9:30 a.m. –
11:30pm.**



Prayer Circle

Every Second Tuesday of the Month
9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. in Kirchner Hall.

Everyone Welcome!

*Don't worry about anything, but pray about everything. With
thankful hearts offer up your prayers and requests to God.
Philippians 4:6*

Board Happenings -

Barb Scantlin, Board Chair - Friendly Reminder:

**There will not be a General Board Meeting, August 14,
2011 after church service. There will be NO Executive
Board Meeting for the month of August.**

Thank you.

Input from: All Church Listening Session Sunday, July 31, 2011

I. How is God blessing this congregation?

"Jesus said I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing"

(John 15:5)

- Thriving community
- Melting pot ->accepting
- God is teaching us to be a better church
- Compassionate people who are willing to help this church move forward
- Loving congregation
- Still together->want to grow
- Still small but persistent
- Hungry for God's Word
- Physical plant

II. How would you describe our congregation?

"As the Body of Christ, you must make every effort to keep the unity of the Holy Spirit through the bond of Peace. There is one Body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; One Lord, One Faith, One baptism; One god and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all" (Ephesians 4:3-6)

- Very active - many opportunities to fellowship and reaching out
- Caring, loving
- Compassionate
- God-loving
- Community of goodwill working together as one
- Average, middle-aged congregation of peace

- Comfortable atmosphere-no pressure
- Focusing on the word

III. Why does Oaks Christian Church exist? (What is our mission?) "Jesus was asked what the most important commandment was. He said, the Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength... The second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself." The Great Commandment (Mark 12:29-31)

"Jesus said go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you and surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." The Great Commission (Matthew 28:19-20)

- Equipping the Saints and sending them out - Ephesians 4:12
- Reach out to the community with the knowledge of Christ
- Mentoring each other
- Reaching and teaching the unchurched
- Minister to the community - love neighbors as ourselves
- Embracing those in need - and everyone
- To continue God's work - grow in Christ
- To fill a need
- Prayer
- Hands and feet of Jesus

Continue->

**Continue Input from:
All Church Listening Session Sunday,
July 31, 2011**

IV. What do you believe to be some of our greatest strength?

"Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many form one body and each member belongs to all the others. We have different gifts according to the Grace given to each of us. (Romans 12:4-5)

- Encouraging each other/[supporting](#)
- Caring for each other
- Strong in prayer/fellowship
- Generosity - Philippians 4:13
- Love is pure - Corinthians 13:4
- Good leadership
- Share ourselves and our blessings with others
- Devoted
- Faith in the Word of God
- United in the process of Transforming our church and ourselves

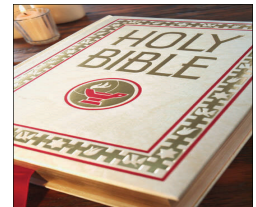
V. When you pray for Oaks, what do you pray for?

"Pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus" (I Thessalonians 5:17)

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God" (Philippians 4:6) "The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective." (James 5:16)

- Church stay healthy and grow
- Guidance - God will help and lead us
- Presence of Jesus
- Healing for the sick
- Prayers of thanksgiving for all we have
- Wisdom - right choices
- Work for unity with positive attitude
- For the un-churched and courage to witness to them
- God's will for Oaks
- Tenacity, perseverance to stay and do God's will
- Our minister will have a Pastor's heart and live in God's word.

**UPCOMING BIBLE
SHARING SESSIONS**



- **August 7** - 1:00 p.m.—2:15p.m. Elders and Board share thoughts about Transformation, Fellowship Hall.
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